

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ _____

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 6/28/84

208
 2025

FM SAC, ALBANY (44-0) ~~3A~~

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH,
 ISLAND POND, VERMONT, JUNE 22, 1984, BY VERMONT STATE POLICE,
 INFORMATION CONCERNING.

FOR INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 20,
 1984, VERMONT STATE POLICE EXECUTED WARRANT AT ISLAND POND,
 VERMONT, WITHOUT INCIDENT AND TRANSPORTED OVER 100 PERSONS TO
 NEWPORT, VERMONT, INCLUDING MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN. THE
 PURPOSE WAS TO EXAMINE THE CHILDREN FOR ANY SIGNS OF ALLEGED
 CHILD ABUSE. ALL PERSONS MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY
 CHURCH AT ISLAND POND. EXAMINATIONS WERE TO BE CONDUCTED BY
 VERMONT SOCIAL WELFARE.

1 - Albany
 FPL:dld
 (1)ld

44A-2133
 7/2/84
 T. J. 7/23/84
 7/23/84

44A-2133-1

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

b6
 b7C

Approved: PVD / Jan

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ _____

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

AL 44-0 PAGE TWO UNCLAS

Date _____

AT NEWPORT, SAME DATE, ALL CASES DISMISSED BY VERMONT DISTRICT JUDGE AND ALL PERSONS TRANSPORTED BACK TO THEIR RESIDENCES.

ORLEANS COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY [REDACTED] ADVISED THE ACTION WAS TAKEN BECAUSE OF CHARGES OF CHILD ABUSE BY PARENTS AND ELDERS OF THE CHURCH IN THAT CHILDREN WERE SPANKED WITH SLENDER RODS FOR DISOBEDIENCE AND FOR DISCIPLINARY PURPOSES. ALLEGATIONS WERE MOSTLY FROM CHURCH DEFECTORS.

ACCORDING TO NEWS MEDIA, THE ACTION HAD THE APPROVAL OF THE VERMONT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE. THE JUDGE WHO DISMISSED THE CASES ADVISED NO PROBABLE CAUSE AND DENOUNCED THE ACTION.

NO COMPLAINTS REGARDING THIS MATTER HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY ALBANY AND NO INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED AT THIS TIME.

BT

#

b6
b7c

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per _____
(Number) (Time)

AL0008 1802137Z

RR HQ

DE AL

R 282025Z JUN 84

FM SAC, ALBANY (44-0)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH,
ISLAND POND, VERMONT, JUNE 22, 1984, BY VERMONT STATE POLICE,
INFORMATION CONCERNING.

FOR INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 20,
1984, VERMONT STATE POLICE EXECUTED WARRANT AT ISLAND POND,
VERMONT, WITHOUT INCIDENT AND TRANSPORTED OVER 100 PERSONS TO
NEWPORT, VERMONT, INCLUDING MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN. THE
PURPOSE WAS TO EXAMINE THE CHILDREN FOR ANY SIGNS OF ALLEGED
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CHURCH AT ISLAND POND. EXAMINATIONS WERE TO BE CONDUCTED BY
VERMONT SOCIAL WELFARE.

7/11/84 -

[REDACTED]

*Monitor for 2 months
but no active investigation
needed.*

44A - 21337

SEARCHED	
SERIALIZED	
INDEXED	
FILED	

[Signature]

b6
b7C

AL 44-0 PAGE TWO UNCLAS

AT NEWPORT, SAME DATE, ALL CASES DISMISSED BY VERMONT DISTRICT JUDGE AND ALL PERSONS TRANSPORTED BACK TO THEIR RESIDENCES.

ORLEANS COUNTY STATE ATTORNEY [REDACTED] ADVISED THE ACTION WAS TAKEN BECAUSE OF CHARGES OF CHILD ABUSE BY PARENTS AND ELDERS OF THE CHURCH IN THAT CHILDREN WERE SPANKED WITH SLENDER RODS FOR DISOBEDIENCE AND FOR DISCIPLINARY PURPOSES. ALLEGATIONS WERE MOSTLY FROM CHURCH DEFECTORS.

ACCORDING TO NEWS MEDIA, THE ACTION HAD THE APPROVAL OF THE VERMONT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE. THE JUDGE WHO DISMISSED THE CASES ADVISED NO PROBABLE CAUSE AND DENOUNCED THE ACTION.

NO COMPLAINTS REGARDING THIS MATTER HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY ALBANY AND NO INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED AT THIS TIME.

BT

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b7c



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Albany, New York

July 18, 1984

**DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF
NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT;
JUNE 22, 1984 - BY VERMONT STATE POLICE**

On June 22, 1984, over one hundred members, adults and children, of the NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, Island Pond, Vermont, were detained and transported to Newport, Vermont, by VERMONT STATE POLICE. Officers acting on court approved warrants issued by Orleans County State Attorney and with knowledge and approval of Vermont Attorney General and the Governor of Vermont. Officers were accompanied by members of VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

This action was taken based on allegations of child abuse by members of the church. Allegations were made by defectors of the church.

Those detained were to be taken to facilities at Newport, Vermont, and the children were to be examined for physical signs of abuse.

Upon arrival at Newport, the warrants were dismissed by Vermont District Court Judge and the individuals were transported back to their residence without examination of the children.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

44A-2133-2

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

9/1

16

b6
b7C

9-14-82)

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 7/18/84

FROM: SAC, ALBANY

ATTENTION: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

- 1. ☒ Initial submission ☐ supplemental submission ☐ revision
- 2. File No: 44A-2133 (include alpha)
- 3. Status: P (P - pending, P* - pending inactive, C - closed, RUC - referred upon completion)
- 4. Title: DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM
COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT;
6/22/84 - BY
VERMONT STATE POLICE

Re: Albany teletype to the Bureau dated 6/28/84, andd Albany telcall to the Bureau dated 7/3/84.

5. If title changed, show previous title:

6. TYPE OF CASE: (check one)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CR | D. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PE | G. <input type="checkbox"/> CRIPA | J. <input type="checkbox"/> FRS |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-E | E. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PF | H. <input type="checkbox"/> DIH | K. <input type="checkbox"/> ISS |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PA | F. <input type="checkbox"/> CREL | I. <input type="checkbox"/> ECOA | L. <input type="checkbox"/> PRIV. ACT - CRIM. |

7. AGENCY TYPE: (check one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> City-County Jail | F. <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff's Office |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency | G. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Police - Hwy Patrol |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> Police Department | H. <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| D. <input type="checkbox"/> Prison/Penitentiary | I. <input type="checkbox"/> Not pertinent |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> Private Security | |

8. AGENCY NAME: VERMONT STATE POLICE (20) STATE: VT (use 2-char. abbrev.)

(omit if "Not pertinent" checked above):

9. ACTION: UACB

- (check if applicable)
- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LHM enclosed | C. <input type="checkbox"/> Report enclosed | E. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No further action being taken |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> LHM being submitted | D. <input type="checkbox"/> Report being submitted | F. <input type="checkbox"/> FD-376 (enclosure to LHM) |

10. Further action: A. ☒ Investigation instituted

- B. ☐ Investigation continuing
C. ☐ Investigation completed

11. Copy of above submitted to: (check as many as applicable)

A. ☒ USA District of Vermont

B. ☐ Secret Service

C. ☐ BATF

D. _____ (15) (other - specify)

2-Bureau (Encls. 4)

2-Albany

FPL/ed

(4)

44A-2133-3

SEARCHED	_____
SERIALIZED	_____
INDEXED	_____
FILED	_____

Enclosures

(ATTACHMENT A)

Victim _____

12. SUBJECTS (number): A. _____ Amer. Indian _____ Male _____ Female
 B. _____ Asian _____ Male _____ Female
 C. _____ Black _____ Male _____ Female
 D. _____ Hispanic _____ Male _____ Female
 E. _____ White _____ Male _____ Female
 F. _____ Other _____ Male _____ Female

If "Other" please specify: _____ (15)

13. VICTIMS (number): A. _____ Amer. Indian _____ Male _____ Female
 B. _____ Asian _____ Male _____ Female
 C. _____ Black _____ Male _____ Female
 D. _____ Hispanic _____ Male _____ Female
 E. 100+ White X Male X Female
 F. _____ Other _____ Male _____ Female

If "Other" please specify: _____ (15)

14. Other descriptive data re victims: _____ not applicable

If applicable (number): A. _____ under 18 C. _____ handicapped
 B. _____ over 62 D. _____ institutionalized
 *children and adults

15. Violator type (use best description, check more than one if applicable).

- A. ☐ brutality type _____ (15) (i.e., shooting; beating)
 B. ☒ non brutality
 C. ☐ death of victim
 D. ☐ suicide method _____ (15) (i.e., hanging, slashed wrist)
 E. ☐ known extremist group type _____ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)
 F. ☐ suspected ext. group type _____ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)
 G. ☐ cross burning
 H. ☐ migrant victim
 I. ☐ violence to property type _____ (15) (i.e., arson, shooting)
 J. ☐ ISS matter type _____ (i.e., peonage, enticement, servitude, other slavery)
 K. ☐ other explain _____ (25)

*16. Synopsis of Complaint - Date of initial complaint 6/22/84

On 6/22/84, over 100 members of captioned church detained by VERMONT STATE POLICE, accompanied by VERMONT SOCIAL WELFARE employees, for purposes of examination of children regarding allegations of child abuse. VERMONT DISTRICT COURT JUDGE dismissed warrants, persons returned to their homes, no complaints received by Albany.

*17. Indices: (check one) ☒ negative ☐ positive (if positive explain in body of report/LHM)

Remarks/Administrative

Routing Slip

0-7 (Rev. 5-28-82)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

TO: LEGAT,

XXX Albany

- ☐ Albuquerque
- ☐ Alexandria
- ☐ Anchorage
- ☐ Atlanta
- ☐ Baltimore
- ☐ Birmingham
- ☐ Boston
- ☐ Buffalo
- ☐ Butte
- ☐ Charlotte
- ☐ Chicago
- ☐ Cincinnati
- ☐ Cleveland
- ☐ Columbia
- ☐ Dallas
- ☐ Denver
- ☐ Detroit
- ☐ El Paso
- ☐ Honolulu

- ☐ Houston
- ☐ Indianapolis
- ☐ Jackson
- ☐ Jacksonville
- ☐ Kansas City
- ☐ Knoxville
- ☐ Las Vegas
- ☐ Little Rock
- ☐ Los Angeles
- ☐ Louisville
- ☐ Memphis
- ☐ Miami
- ☐ Milwaukee
- ☐ Minneapolis
- ☐ Mobile
- ☐ Newark
- ☐ New Haven
- ☐ New Orleans
- ☐ New York City
- ☐ Norfolk

- ☐ Oklahoma City
- ☐ Omaha
- ☐ Philadelphia
- ☐ Phoenix
- ☐ Pittsburgh
- ☐ Portland
- ☐ Richmond
- ☐ Sacramento
- ☐ St. Louis
- ☐ Salt Lake City
- ☐ San Antonio
- ☐ San Diego
- ☐ San Francisco
- ☐ San Juan
- ☐ Savannah
- ☐ Seattle
- ☐ Springfield
- ☐ Tampa
- ☐ Washington Field
- ☐ Quantico

- ☐ Bern
- ☐ Bogota
- ☐ Bonn
- ☐ Canberra
- ☐ Hong Kong
- ☐ London
- ☐ Mexico City
- ☐ Montevideo
- ☐ Ottawa
- ☐ Panama City
- ☐ Paris
- ☐ Rome
- ☐ Tokyo

- ☐ ASAC, New Rochelle (MRA)
- ☐ ASAC, Brooklyn-Queens (MRA)

8-8-84

Date

RE: DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM
COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT;
6-22-84-BY VERMONT STATE POLICE, CR, OO: AL

AIRTEL LHM DATED 7-18-84

Retention For appropriate

- ☐ For information ☐ optional ☐ action ☐ Surep, by _____
- ☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources,
☐ paraphrase contents.
- ☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____
dated _____

Remarks:

Review of re FD-610 reflects incorrect title.
Title should be: UNSUBS, VERMONT STATE POLICE;
MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH,
ISLAND POND, VERMONT-VICTIMS, CIVIL RIGHTS,
OO: ALBANY

Submit supplemental FD-610 with corrected title.

Enc.
Bufile
Urfile

44A-2133-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 13 1984	
FBI - ALBANY	

b6
b7C

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 10/11/84

FROM: SAC, ALBANY

ATTENTION: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION
CIVIL RIGHTS UNIT

1. ☒ Initial submission ☒ supplemental submission ☐ revision
2. File No. ~~44A-2133~~ (include alpha)
3. Status: P (P - pending, P* - pending inactive, C - closed, RUC - referred upon completion)

4. Title:

CHANGED
UNSUBS;
VERMONT STATE POLICE;
MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM
COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT - VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS
OO: ALBANY

Re: Title marked "changed" to reflect appropriate title for this matter.
 Albany teletype of 6/28/84 and FD-610 dated 7/18/84, captioned
"DETAINMENT OF MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT, 6/22/84 BY VERMONT STATE POLICE"

5. If Title changed, show previous title:

6. TYPE OF CASE: (check one)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| A. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CR | D. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PE | G. <input type="checkbox"/> CRIPA | J. <input type="checkbox"/> FRS |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-E | E. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PF | H. <input type="checkbox"/> DMH | K. <input type="checkbox"/> ISS |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> CRA64-PA | F. <input type="checkbox"/> CREL | I. <input type="checkbox"/> ECOA | L. <input type="checkbox"/> PRIV. ACT - CRIM. |

7. AGENCY TYPE: (check one)

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. <input type="checkbox"/> City-County Jail | F. <input type="checkbox"/> Sheriff's Office |
| B. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency | G. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Police - Hwy Patrol |
| C. <input type="checkbox"/> Police Department | H. <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| D. <input type="checkbox"/> Prison/Penitentiary | I. <input type="checkbox"/> Not pertinent |
| E. <input type="checkbox"/> Private Security | |

8. AGENCY NAME: Vermont State Police (20) STATE: Vt. (use 2-char. abbrev.)
 (omit if "Not pertinent" checked above):

9. ACTION: UACB:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--|---|
| (check if applicable) | A. <input type="checkbox"/> LHM enclosed | C. <input type="checkbox"/> Report enclosed | E. <input type="checkbox"/> No further action being taken |
| | B. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LHM being submitted | D. <input type="checkbox"/> Report being submitted | F. <input type="checkbox"/> FD-376 (enclosure to LHM) |

*10. Further action: A. ☐ investigation instituted
 B. ☒ investigation continuing
 C. ☐ investigation completed

11. Copy of above submitted to: (check as many as applicable)

- A. ☐ USA _____
 B. ☐ Secret Service
 C. ☐ BATF
 D. _____ (15) (other - specify)

2 - Bureau
 ① - Albany (44A-2133)
 FPL: csm
 (3)
 CSM

44A-2133-5

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

Enclosures

(ATTACHMENT Ab 6
b7C

Victim _____

12. SUBJECTS (number): A. _____ Amer. Indian _____ Male _____ Female
 B. _____ Asian _____ Male _____ Female
 C. _____ Black _____ Male _____ Female
 D. _____ Hispanic _____ Male _____ Female
 E. _____ White _____ Male _____ Female
 F. _____ Other _____ Male _____ Female

If "Other" please specify: _____ (15)

13. VICTIMS (number): A. _____ Amer. Indian _____ Male _____ Female
 B. _____ Asian _____ Male _____ Female
 C. _____ Black _____ Male _____ Female
 D. _____ Hispanic _____ Male _____ Female
 E. 100 White X Male X Female
 F. _____ Other _____ Male _____ Female

If "Other" please specify: _____ (15)

14. Other descriptive data re victims: _____ not applicable

If applicable (number): A. _____ under 18 C. _____ handicapped
 B. _____ over 62 D. _____ institutionalized

15. Matter type (use best description, check more than one if applicable): *** children and adults**

A. ☐ brutality type _____ (15) (i.e., shooting; beating)
 B. ☒ nonbrutality
 C. ☐ death of victim
 D. ☐ suicide method _____ (15) (i.e., hanging, slashed wrist)
 E. ☐ known extremist group type _____ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)
 F. ☐ suspected ext. group type _____ (15) (i.e., Klan, Nazi, JDL)
 G. ☐ cross burning
 H. ☐ migrant victim
 I. ☐ violence to property type _____ (15) (i.e., arson, shooting)
 J. ☐ ISS matter type _____ (i.e., peonage, enticement, servitude, other slavery)
 K. ☐ other explain _____ (25)

* 16. Synopsis of Complaint - Date of initial complaint 6/22/84

On 6/22/84, over 100 members of captioned church detained by VERMONT STATE POLICE, accompanied by VERMONT SOCIAL WELFARE employees, for purposes of examination of children regarding allegations of child abuse. VERMONT DISTRICT COURT JUDGE dismissed warrants, persons returned to their homes, no complaints received by Albany.

* 17. Indices: (check one) ☒ negative ☐ positive (if positive explain in body of report/LHM)

Remarks/Administrative

Routing Slip

0-7 (Rev. 5-28-82)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

TO: LEGAT,

XXX

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Albany | <input type="checkbox"/> Houston |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Albuquerque | <input type="checkbox"/> Indianapolis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alexandria | <input type="checkbox"/> Jackson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anchorage | <input type="checkbox"/> Jacksonville |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atlanta | <input type="checkbox"/> Kansas City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore | <input type="checkbox"/> Knoxville |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birmingham | <input type="checkbox"/> Las Vegas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boston | <input type="checkbox"/> Little Rock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buffalo | <input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butte | <input type="checkbox"/> Louisville |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charlotte | <input type="checkbox"/> Memphis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicago | <input type="checkbox"/> Miami |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cincinnati | <input type="checkbox"/> Milwaukee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland | <input type="checkbox"/> Minneapolis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Columbia | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dallas | <input type="checkbox"/> Newark |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Denver | <input type="checkbox"/> New Haven |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Detroit | <input type="checkbox"/> New Orleans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> El Paso | <input type="checkbox"/> New York City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Honolulu | <input type="checkbox"/> Norfolk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ASAC, New Rochelle (MRA) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ASAC, Brooklyn-Queens (MRA) | |

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oklahoma City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Omaha |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philadelphia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Phoenix |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pittsburgh |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Richmond |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento |
| <input type="checkbox"/> St. Louis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salt Lake City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Antonio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Diego |
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Francisco |
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Juan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Savannah |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Springfield |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tampa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Washington Field |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quantico |

- | |
|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bern |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bogota |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bonn |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canberra |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hong Kong |
| <input type="checkbox"/> London |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mexico City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Montevideo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ottawa |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Panama City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paris |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rome |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tokyo |

10-24-84

Date

RE: UNSUBS; VERMONT STATE POLICE; MEMBERS OF NORTH-EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT-VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS, OO: ALBANY

- Retention For appropriate
- ☐ For information ☐ optional ☐ action ☐ Surep, by _____
- ☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.
- ☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____
- Remarks:**

Review of FD-610 dated 10-11-84 reflects incorrect alpha designation. Correct alpha character should be "B".

In addition, item number one was marked initial submission; it should have been marked supplemental submission. 44A-2133-6

FBIHQ copies corrected. Albany should make sure their copies are corrected.

Enc.
Bufile
Urfile

SEARCHED <i>BR</i>	INDEXED <i>BR</i>
SERIALIZED <i>BR</i>	FILED <i>BR</i>
OCT 29 1984	
BANY	

b6
b7C

Routing Slip

0-7 (Rev. 5-28-82)

(Copies to Offices Checked)

TO: SAC,

TO: LEGAT,

XXX

- ☐ Albany
- ☐ Albuquerque
- ☐ Alexandria
- ☐ Anchorage
- ☐ Atlanta
- ☐ Baltimore
- ☐ Birmingham
- ☐ Boston
- ☐ Buffalo
- ☐ Butte
- ☐ Charlotte
- ☐ Chicago
- ☐ Cincinnati
- ☐ Cleveland
- ☐ Columbia
- ☐ Dallas
- ☐ Denver
- ☐ Detroit
- ☐ El Paso
- ☐ Honolulu

- ☐ Houston
- ☐ Indianapolis
- ☐ Jackson
- ☐ Jacksonville
- ☐ Kansas City
- ☐ Knoxville
- ☐ Las Vegas
- ☐ Little Rock
- ☐ Los Angeles
- ☐ Louisville
- ☐ Memphis
- ☐ Miami
- ☐ Milwaukee
- ☐ Minneapolis
- ☐ Mobile
- ☐ Newark
- ☐ New Haven
- ☐ New Orleans
- ☐ New York City
- ☐ Norfolk

- ☐ Oklahoma City
- ☐ Omaha
- ☐ Philadelphia
- ☐ Phoenix
- ☐ Pittsburgh
- ☐ Portland
- ☐ Richmond
- ☐ Sacramento
- ☐ St. Louis
- ☐ Salt Lake City
- ☐ San Antonio
- ☐ San Diego
- ☐ San Francisco
- ☐ San Juan
- ☐ Savannah
- ☐ Seattle
- ☐ Springfield
- ☐ Tampa
- ☐ Washington Field
- ☐ Quantico

- ☐ Bern
- ☐ Bogota
- ☐ Bonn
- ☐ Canberra
- ☐ Hong Kong
- ☐ London
- ☐ Mexico City
- ☐ Montevideo
- ☐ Ottawa
- ☐ Panama City
- ☐ Paris
- ☐ Rome
- ☐ Tokyo

- ☐ ASAC, New Rochelle (MRA)
- ☐ ASAC, Brooklyn-Queens (MRA)

11-20-84

Date

RE:

UNSUBS; VERMONT STATE POLICE; MEMBERS OF NORTH EAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT VICTIMS CIVIL RIGHTS, OO: ALBANY

Retention For appropriate

- ☐ For information ☐ optional ☐ action ☐ Surep, by _____
- ☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.
- ☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks: RE: Albany FD-610 dated 10-11-84.

Per referenced communication Albany indicated LHM being submitted. If no further incidents have occurred Albany should submit this communication in a closing status.

Enc.
Bufile
Urfile

44A-2133-7

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 26 1984	
ALBANY	

b6
b7C
FBI/DOJ

Albany New York 12201 1219

December 18, 1984

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;
VERMONT STATE POLICE
MEMBERS OF NORTHEAST KINGDOM COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT-VICTIMS

On June 22, 1984 at Island Pond Vermont, officers of the Vermont State Police, armed with search warrants authorized by Vermont District Court and accompanied by state social workers, entered specific houses, named in the warrants and took into custody 112 children, all members of the Northeast Kingdom Community Church, Island Pond, Vermont. The warrants issued were based on child abuse allegations against members of the church. The warrants also authorized seizure of any evidence of child abuse. X

The children, along with 111 adults from the church were bused to Newport, Vermont, there to be examined by medical personnel for evidence of child abuse.

On June 22, 1984 Vermont District Judge FRANK MAHADY dismissed the warrants stating they were not specific enough and the children were returned to their homes the same day by Vermont State Police.

The daily newspaper "The Times Argus", Barre, Vermont stated in its June 23, 1984 edition that Vermont Governor RICHARD SNELLING had taken full responsibility for the raid explaining that it was "authorized by me in consultation with the attorney general at the request of the commissioner of Social and Rehabilitation Services." This same edition notes that the state had asked to detain the children for 72 hours for examination.

The church has been the subject of criticism by some people in Vermont for its strict adherence to its religious beliefs and its belief in corporal punishment of its children. As a result of the raid elders of the church made themselves available to the media and the public to explain their beliefs.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

44B-2133-8
SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
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FILED
DEC 19 1984
FBI - ALBANY

RE UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; VERMONT STATE POLICE, MEMBERS OF THE NORTHEAST
COMMUNITY CHURCH, ISLAND POND, VERMONT

In the October 1, 1984 edition of the daily newspaper "The Burlington Free Press", Burlington, Vermont it was noted that some state officials contend that children in the church are still in danger of child abuse and that the children are not being sent to state approved schools.

In the August 9, 1984 edition of the "The Burlington Free Press", Judge FRANK MAHADY states that the raid was a "fishing expedition" and the state obviously did not have enough evidence of child abuse and was "merely trying to gain evidence to support the raid."

It is the publics general knowledge that the Northeast Kingdom Community Church was set up in Island Pond, Vermont in the mid 1970's by persons from Tennessee. The church is ruled by elders and all members are to turn their personal property over to the church. The members have purchased several houses and small businesses in Island Pond and are self supporting. They teach their children and do not send them to public school. Some of the members not involved in the small business are engaged in farming, the food raised being for use of the members.

This matter was discussed with Assistant U.S. Attorney [redacted] District of Vermont on June 28, 1984 at which time he advised that since the state police acted on legal warrants there was no action to be taken by the FBI. He advised that should any complaints of civil rights violations be received by the FBI concerning the matter he was to be advised. No complaints were received and no investigation is being conducted.

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AIRTEL

12/18/84

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, ALBANY (44B-2133)(C)

SUBJECT: UNSUBS;
VERMONT STATE POLICE
MEMBERS OF THE NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CHURCH
ISLAND POND, VERMONT-VICTIMS
CIVIL RIGHTS
OO:ALBANY

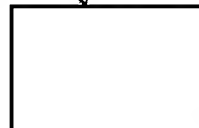
Enclosed for the Bureau are the original and two
copies of LHM concerning this matter.

AUSA, Vermont being furnished copy of LHM by
cover letter. 6

2-Bureau (Enc. 3)
①-Albany
FPL:amm *amm*
(3)

Class #1
[Signature]

44B-2133-9
[Signature]



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CASE AGENT - MARK FOR INDEXING

March 23, 1992

Honorable Sherwood Boehlert
Member of Congress
Room 200
Alexander Pirnie Federal Building
10 Broad Street
Utica, New York 13501

Dear Congressman Boehlert:

This is in further response to your February 21st communication to the Department of Justice on behalf of [redacted]

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[redacted] 62-0-16071P3
[redacted] have written regarding the Northeast Kingdom Community Church located in Burlington, Vermont. They described this organization as a religious cult and stated their concern about the welfare of [redacted] who are associated with this group. As a parent, I can sympathize with their concern for their family members.

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As an investigative arm of the United States Department of Justice, the FBI investigates violations of Federal law which fall within our jurisdiction. We do not, however, infringe on the rights of either traditional or nontraditional religious groups to participate in activities protected by the First Amendment. If there is evidence that such groups have violated a law coming within the FBI's investigative authority, we would, of course, initiate an investigation. Based on the information provided, there is no indication of such a violation.

I would like to assure [redacted] that all allegations of criminal activity falling within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI will be carefully reviewed, and

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1 - Albany (44A-2133) - Enclosures (2)
Reurlet dated 3/17/92.

44A-2133-10

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MAR 30 1992	
FBI - ALBANY	

[redacted]

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Honorable Sherwood Boehlert

appropriate action will be taken should the circumstances warrant it. They may wish to contact a representative of our office located at 445 Broadway, Albany, New York 12202-1219, or telephone (518) 465-7751, to provide any additional information they may have.

I hope the information I have provided will be of assistance to you in responding to your constituents.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Collingwood
Inspector in Charge
Congressional Affairs Office

1 - Executive Secretariat - Enclosure
Room 4400-AA, DOJ

SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

25TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:

SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY
PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

NORTHEAST-MIDWEST CONGRESSIONAL
COALITION

U.S. DELEGATION INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3225

February 21, 1992

RESPOND TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

1127 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3225
(202) 225-3665

CENTRAL OFFICE:

ALEXANDER PIRNIE FEDERAL BUILDING
10 BROAD STREET
UTICA, NEW YORK 13501
(315) 793-8146

TOLL FREE: 1-800-235-2525

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

92 FEB 24 P 4:54

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. W. Lee Rawls
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Justice
Constitution and 10th St. NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Rawls:

Enclosed is correspondence I have received from [redacted]
[redacted] in regards to the Northeast Kingdom
Community Church, in Burlington, Vermont.

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[redacted] are very concerned over the welfare of
[redacted] I would appreciate your
review of this matter, and if there is any history of federal
laws being broken by this group, please send me the
information.

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Please reply to me at my District Office, Alexander
Pirnie Federal Building, 10 Broad Street, Room 200, Utica, New
York, 13501.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to hearing
from you.

Sincerely,

Sherwood Boehlert
Sherwood Boehlert
Member of Congress

SB:1aj
Enclosure

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
MAR 30 1992	
FBI - ALBANY	

CORTLAND
17 MAIN STREET
CORTLAND NEW YORK 13045

MANLEY HOUSE
42 S BROAD STREET
NORWICH, NEW YORK 13815

41 S MAIN STREET
ROOM 203
ONEONTA NEW YORK 13827

January 27, 1992

U. S. Congressman
 Sherwood L. Boehlert
 U. S. House of Representatives
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Boehlert:

On [redacted]
 [redacted]

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Vermont. They are now members of the Northeast Kingdom Community Church; a heavily male-dominated, destructive religious cult. They live in one house with approximately 31 other members, located in a college community, surrounded by dormitories; always attentive to students away from home, perhaps homesick, or "down" in some way, looking for a friend. This is when the group makes their move, preying on these young people. To join this community, an individual is required to give up all their "worldly" possessions; homes, cars, all personal belongings. The men rule over their wives and claim them as their possessions; one step up from slavery. There are no newspapers, radio, or TV, so the women and children are "out of touch" with most of the outside world, which is exactly as the commune is structured to be. The food they eat is a low protein diet, which negatively affects the mind.

Having read many newspaper and magazine articles, as well as talking with ex-cult members, [redacted] have become quite informed on this particular group. One ex-member I talked with insists on remaining anonymous, fearing for the friends he left behind in the commune. He claims to have on-going nightmares resulting from his lengthy stay at the community in Island Pond; another branch. He has shared much information with us, describing some sick, "suffering-for-the-Lord" situations. They have been known to pray for others to die.

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I fear for [redacted] The children in this community are very strictly disciplined, starting at age 9 months. At this time they are struck with a "balloon" stick. As they become older the discipline becomes much more severe, along with continuous mental anguish. They are taught to "obey" on first command. These children have no toys and are not allowed to socialize with any neighbor children, only the children in the commune. [redacted] witnessed some of [redacted] schooling. It consisted of two boys sitting at a table in the direct sun, forbidden to leave the table, screwing and unscrewing a nut and bolt for "hand-co-ordination." Parents are warned their children will be taken from them if they fail to discipline them in the structured manner.

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If the children are removed from their parents' custody, they are then given to other parents who will "love" them as they should be loved. This obviously means the children will be controlled and disciplined in the "proper" manner. The children do not attend public schools. They are taught what the members think they should be taught. They are not immunized against childhood diseases and do not see doctors. There are no birth or death records and there is documentation of individuals dying and being buried on grounds. When new members are indoctrinated they are given new names. (Hebrew names) In this way, the members may be moved from one community to another should the need arise. (Such as a parent searching for a child) The other communities include the US, (Island Pond) Canada, France and Spain. ✓

At present there is a young woman living in Essex County, searching for her two young sons. The entire family once belonged to the community at Island Pond, Vt. However, due to degrading treatment, she left. She has since obtained custody of her sons, but the husband and boys have "vanished."

Slowly, but surely, over the past year, all communication between [redacted] has ceased. This is one of the cults' mind-controlling devices, to sever all ties between family members, so as to prevent interference from the "outside world."

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I don't understand how a group such as this, with well-documented negative publicity, continues to function. I sincerely believe someone is being paid off to overlook some of the goings on. Would it be possible for you to look into this matter for me? I have thus far contacted the following individuals for assistance: US Congressman Patrick Leahy, US Congressman Bernard Sanders, Senator James M. Jeffords, and Governor Howard Dean. Any assistance you may offer will be greatly appreciated. I have much documentation should you like to become more familiar with this community.



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